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1. Status of Claims

Claims 1-23 were and remain pending. Claims 1, 2, 4-13, 15-17, 19-21 and 23 are allowed. Claims 3, 14, 18 and 22 stand rejected.

2. Priority

The first paragraph of the specification has been amended so as to indicate that the parent application is "now Patent No. 6,680,384", as requested in the action.

3. Abstract

The abstract has been replaced with a new abstract which employs the text of claim 1, including the figure, as suggested by the action.

4. Claim Rejections Under 35 USC 112

The action indicates that claims 3, 14, 18 and 22 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 USC 112, second paragraph.

Claims 3, 14, 18 and 22 have been amended by removing from each claim the phrase "particularly fluorine and/or chlorine". This amendment overcomes the stated basis for rejection of these claims under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. They should now be allowable.

Conclusion

It is earnestly asserted that the instant amendments address all objections to the specification and overcome all rejections of the claims so that the application is now in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Stempel

Attorney for Applicant(s)

Reg. No. 28,991

Patent Department Boehringer Ingelheim Corp. 900 Ridgebury Road P.O. Box 368 Ridgefield, CT. 06877

Tel.: (203) 798-4868